

February 4, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I too rise to support Senator Luedtke in this bill. In the number of years that I have been around I found out if I don't know what's in that bill by the time it gets to final reading, I've got a little bit of a problem. I best better have all of my arguments out of my head by that time because I'm not gonna debate with myself on final reading, whether I'm going to vote for or against that piece of legislation. If there are errors in it, they will be corrected by the engrossing people when that time comes. Actually, the main purpose of my speaking for the bill is to bring us back to the area of General File. I would make the suggestion that we contact, and I've just spoken to the Clerk about it, our revisor of statutes and our bill drafter and put these bills in smaller sections. I think they have tended to evolve a system of consolidating the sections of a statute so they are two and three pages long sometimes. I think it makes it difficult for judication, as well as us. If I may reminisce just a moment as to General File. If a bill would be read on General File properly, it would be read by title. Then the question will be asked, any corrections in the title, or any amendments. Then it would be read . . . the first section, and the question would be asked, any amendments to section one. Then section two would be read and any amendments to section two. Then, when they've completed the reading of the section and the amending by section, then the question would be asked, any amendments to the bill as a whole. Then you make that. As it goes across the board then you do not allow the amending on Select File. Should you desire to amend on Select File, you return it to General File. Then you make an amendment. So you watch it all the way through because the necessity of reading a bill on final reading is for . . . because by that time if you haven't got it down pat you've got a dilemma while they are reading it. Consequently, I don't think that in the reading on General File that anyone is appraised of the fact of what's in it, unless they're reading it themselves along with the Clerk.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have a question for Senator Luedtke please. My only question is, this would also apply to constitutional amendments?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Well it would apply to any bill that was passed by the Legislature. That's correct. Yes sir.

SENATOR NICHOL: OK. Thank you.

SEN. SWIGART: Mr. President, I'd like to make a correction. I was slightly in error on one point a while ago. I said the vote was unanimous. The vote was 5 ayes and 1 nay and 1 absent. I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.